

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Notice of Allowance mailed December 16, 2005. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action for this Application.

Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of Claims 9-19.

The Examiner issued an Office Action on June 15, 2005. Applicant submitted a Response to Examiner's Action on September 15, 2005. The Examiner issued a Notice of Allowance on December 16, 2005. The issue fee has not been paid. Applicant became aware of documents not considered during prosecution of this Application. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.313(a), Applicant respectfully requests to withdraw this Application from issue for consideration of an Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant respectfully requests continued examination of this Application so that the attached Information Disclosure Statement and documents cited therein be considered by the Examiner.

Applicant further requests consideration of the Request for Declaration of Interference filed January 7, 2004. The Examiner has not provided any indication that the Request for Declaration of Interference has been considered.

Attached herewith is a check in an amount of \$790.00 made payable to the "Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks" to satisfy the request for continued examination fee of 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e).

CONCLUSION

Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for immediate allowance and interference review. For the foregoing reasons and for other apparent reasons, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all pending claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees and/or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Attorneys for Applicant

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles S. Fish", is written over the printed name.

Charles S. Fish

Reg. No. 35,870

March 16, 2006

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